

Tribute

"To The Man," My Father

*G*rowing up, from a child to a woman, my father still was calling me, his baby girl. I would get upset, because I'm grown, but still a child in his world.

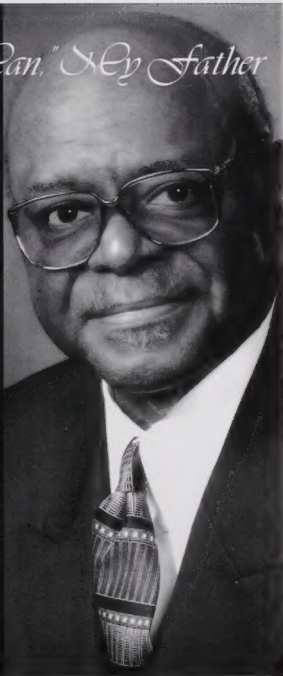
After becoming older, and having children of my own, I realized that to a parent, a child will never be grown.

"My baby girl" he called me, and now I understand, that I was his baby girl all the way to the end.

Daddy you were stern, but fair to me, and it helped me to become the person I am today. I love you daddy and I know you loved me.

Daddy, you had enough love to give to everyone you touched and for that I will always be proud to say that you are my father. Now you can watch over us as one of God's angels. "Daddy, the children and I will miss you."

*Love Always,
Donna Marie, Aaron and Dawnn*





God's Plan

*Things don't just happen to children of God.
They're part of a wonderful plan
The troubles, reverses, the sorrows, the rod,
Are strokes of the Great Sculptor's hand.*

*Things don't just happen to children of God,
The blue print was made by His hand.
He designed all details to conform to His Son,
So all the things that happen are planned.*

*We enter this world from the great unknown and
God gives each spirit a form of its own
And endows this form with a heart and soul
To spur man on to his ultimate goal.*

*The purpose of death is but to gain
Life everlasting in God's great domain
And no one need make this journey alone
For God has promised, to take care of His own.*

Service of Triumph and Victory

for
Donald K. Tucker



SUNRISE
MARCH 18
1938

SUNSET
OCTOBER 17
2005

MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2005 • 10:00AM

REV. GRANVILLE SEWARD, *Pastor*
REV. EDDIE SPENCER IV, *Officiating*

31 years of service

Donald K. Tucker was born March 18, 1938 in Newark, NJ. He was one of 7 children born to the late Fogie and Hartie Mollie Tucker. Born on Vine Street, Donald was a product of the Newark Public Schools System, attending South Street, Oliver Street, East Side and graduating from Central High Evening School. He later received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Goddard College in Montpelier, Vermont, also doing graduate study in public administration and urban planning at Rutgers University. Donald accepted Christ at an early age and was baptized at First Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Newark. In the late 1950's he united with the First Baptist Church of Nutley NJ.

Donald served in the NJ Air National Guard and transferred to the United States Air Force. He received an honorable discharge from the Air Force in 1959. Upon his return to civilian life, he became active in the Civil Rights Movement, working as a field secretary for the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) in Canton and Jackson, Mississippi. He also worked on voter registration with the Maryland Freedom Union, best known as the MFU Project. Upon returning to Newark, he continued his civil rights activity working with the Essex County Congress of Racial

1985, he was appointed to the Passaic Valley Sewage Commissioners (PVSC) by Governor Tom Kean and served as Chairman 1990-1992, and from 2004 until his death. He gained national prominence as a municipal leader, serving as President of the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (NBC-LEO) and a member of the executive board of the National League of Cities. He was the Founder and Chairman of the highly successful New Jersey black Issues Convention. Donald Tucker was the longest serving member of the Newark Municipal Council in the history of the City of Newark. He has been elected seven times and served as Council President 1990-1992.

Although a Political Activist and Elected Official, he never neglected his love for God and for his Church. He was ordained a Deacon, at the First Baptist Church of Nutley, NJ in October 2004, and worked tirelessly for the Retirement ceremony of the famed Angelic Choir.

Donald was preceded in death by siblings Fogie H. Tucker, Dorothy Simmons and Lillian Tucker.

He leaves to cherish his memory his wife Cleopatra, sons Kiburi Donkor and Stacy Carroll, daughter Donna Maria (Johnny) Wynn of South Carolina, sisters Pearl T. Minater,



Donald Tucker has spent over 40 years of his life ensuring that services are provided to the people.

Equality. Donald participated in the fight for employment opportunities for minorities during the construction of Barringer High School and the expansion of the Newark International Airport. He also led the fight for employment opportunities within large corporate chains operating in Newark, beginning with White Castle. Donald worked with the United Brothers of Newark, and the Committee for a Unified Newark. One of the more noteworthy results of his participation with the latter organization was the selection of Kenneth A. Gibson as a candidate for Mayor of the City of Newark. Mr. Gibson went on to win the 1970 election making him the first African-American Mayor of the City.

Prior to 1974, he was an administrator of public agencies and a community activist. Newark Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson appointed him as Deputy Director of the Newark Model Cities Programs and modifying them based on the Mayor's instruction to ensure the delivery of comprehensive services to the resident population of the City of Newark and to work with the Mayor's staff in developing the Newark Housing and Rehabilitation Corporation. He served in a principal position in Gibson's administration from 1970 until his election to the City Council in 1974. In

and Mildred (Lawrence) Hawkins, brother Robert (Elizabeth) Tucker, sister in laws Rosetta Tucker, Yvonne Hollis of Birmingham, Alabama, and Abrendalyn Hollis of Newark, mother-in-law Augusta Hollis of Birmingham, Alabama, aunts Ella Jones of Plainfield, NJ, Jewel Daniels and Doreatha Carter of Newark, Bertha McGee of Detroit, Michigan, Mary (Thomas) Falls of Birmingham, Alabama, Alice Robinson of Virginia, and Dorothy Hogan of Gary Indiana. Grandchildren Michael Gammage, JaDawn Wynn, Kiburi Donkor Jr., Nasir Tucker, Nadif Tucker, Nazim Tucker, Anijah Tucker, Marquis Carroll, Lamar Turner, dear friend Beauty Webster, Fred Butler, a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends. Also, his faithful staff from the Centre, City Hall, Passaic Valley Sewage Commission, the Assembly, and especially his faithful dog Domino Tucker.

II Timothy 4:7-8

I have fought a good fight, I have finished [my] course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

Program

Organ Prelude

Processional of Clergy and Family

Old Testament Scripture

Rev. Willie Simmons
Pastor, 1st Corinthians Baptist Church
Newark, NJ

New Testament Scripture

Rev. Ronald Christian
Pastor, Christian Love Baptist Church
Newark, NJ

Prayer

Bishop Buster Simmons
Pastor, New Life Christian Fellowship
Newark, NJ

Selection

JUBILATION

Poem

Deborah Simmons

Acknowledgements/Remarks *(2 minutes only please)*

Lorrie Williams

Reading of the Obituary (read silently)

Selection

JUBILATION

Eulogy

Rev. Lawrence C. Roberts
Pastor Emeritus, First Baptist Church, Nudely, NJ

Recessional

Interment
Evergreen Cemetery
Hillside, NJ

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*Donald K. Tucker and his family invite you to join them for
a repast following the interment at The Centre, 23-35 Elizabeth Avenue*

RESIDENCE AND EDUCATION

Born and Raised in East Ward of Newark.
New Jersey went to:

- Student South Street School, Oliver St. School,
East Side High School, Central Evening High School
- Member East Side High School Track Team, Band,
Various Chorus
- Student UCLA at Riverside, California
- Student Upsala College, East Orange, New Jersey
- Student Rutgers University
- Student Seton Hall University
- Student Graduated Goddard College Montpelier,
Vermont, B.A. Urban Planning
- Student Rutgers Intern Program

ACTIVISM

- Member NAACP Youth Council, California
- Member Newark Essex Chapter of Congress of Racial Equality
- Field Secretary Congress of Racial Equality
Worked in:
Canton, Mississippi
Jackson, Mississippi
Maryland Freedom Union

MILITARY SERVICE

- Member Civil Air Patrol
- Member New Jersey National Guard
- Air Man United States Air Force
- A/2 Class Served at:
• Sarason Air Force Base, Rochester, New York
• Tillamook Air Force Base, Tillamook, Oregon
• Riverside Air Force, Riverside, California
• Goose Bay Air Force Base, Goose Bay, Labrador
• Tully Green Land Air Force Base
• Fairbanks Alaska Air Force Base

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Member First Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Newark
- Member The Black, the Red, the Brown and the Yellow
of California
- Scout Master Boys Scout - Troop 142, Pennington Court, Newark
- Cub Master Cub Scout Unit 142, Pennington Court, Newark
- Board Member
and Staff United Community Corporation
- Board Member Newark Pte School Council
- Founder Operation Iron Bound
- Founder Operation Iron Bound Youth Council
- Founder Iron Bound Daycare Center
- Organizer Newark First High School Equality Tutorial Program
- Organizer Iron Bound/Valley Junior Baseball League
- Organizer Welfare Rights Organization
- Founder Newark Tenants Council (Public Housing Tenants)
- Founder of One of Newark's 1st African Pte School
- Organizer Black Studies Program-Seton Hall University
- Founder The Centre Inc. in the Valley Area of Newark
- Member United Brothers of Newark
- Member Committee for a Unified Newark
- Candidate 1st Black and Puerto Rican Convention
Run for East Ward Councilman
- Candidate 2nd Black and Puerto Rican Convention
Run for Councilman-At-Large
- Organizer Newark Minority Trade Association-Construction jobs

- Founder Newark Minority Construction Jobs Set Aside Program
- Member Trinity 33, Prince Hall Masons
- Member First Baptist Church of Nutley
- Life Time
Member NAACP
- Associate
Member National Council of Negro Women
- Member New Jersey National Black Caucus of Local Elected
Officials (NBC/LEO)
- Member African Newark Organization
- Founder/
President New Jersey Black Issues Leadership Convention
(NJBI/C) Unions
- Member Local 97 Teamsters Union
- Member Local 1703 Electrical Workers Union
- Sharp Steward Local 1703 Union

POSITION

- Founder (APCA) Addiction Planning and Coordination Agency
of Newark
- Founder Newark Multi Phase Drug Treatment Agency
- Founder Soul House Drug Rehabilitation
- Founder (C/UDA) Drug Rehabilitation Program
- Director Operation Iron Bound
- Planner United Community Corporation
- Contract Compliance
Officer Newark Model Cities Program
- Founder Newark Model Cities Educational Program
- Founder Newark Consumer Affairs Program
- Deputy Director Newark Model Cities Program

POLITICAL POSITIONS

- Elected Democratic District Leader
East Ward District 13
South Ward District 46
- Elected July 1, 1974, Newark Municipal Council
- Elected 1997 New Jersey State Assemblyman-District 29
- Elected 2001 Speaker Pro Tempore, New Jersey State Assembly

- Aide to Freeholder/
Senator Wynona Lipman
- Organizer National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials
(NBC/LEO)
- Board Member NBC/LEO
- Treasurer NBC/LEO
- National
President NBC/LEO
- Member National Black Leadership Forum
- Appointed
Commissioner Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners
- Elected
Chairman Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners

NATIONAL INVOLVEMENT

- National Board
Member National League of Cities (NLC)
- Board Member National Advisory Committee, National League of Cities
- Organizer National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials
(NBC/LEO)
- Associate
Member Hispanic Elected Latino Officials

Donald Tucker The *Early Years*



National Political Leadership





National Political Leadership





The
Family Man

NDOA



MARRIAGE





Pall Bearers

Adrian Hawkins • Eric Hawkins • Mark Hawkins • Steven K. Minatee
Terrance Tucker • Robert Tucker Jr. • Johnny Banks • Daryl Simmons

Honorary Pall Bearers

John Taliaferro • Gene Etchison • John Smith • Malachi Beantley • Tim Danzy • John Chaco • Charles Yabo
George Bonsur • Robert Pickett, Esq. • Monsoor Ashuray • Robert P. Marasco • Kenneth Louis • Frank Bell • Rick Taylor
PVSC Commissioners • NJBIC Board. Members • The Centre Board Members • Municipal Council of Newark

Special Thanks To

King Perry • James Wiley and Staff • Jose Lopez • Kenneth Louis

Thank You

If the eyes of the deceased were open.
If their ears could hear the tender words.
If their lips could express what the heart felt.
I'm sure this is what you would have heard.

Thank you for how you shared in my past.
My ups and downs, my joys and tears.
Thank you for helping me along the way.
When I struggled with life's knocks and fears.

Thank you for showing me the way
that led to Heavens door
Thank you for how you stood at the gate,
knowing I'd return no more.
Thank you for the flowers and the cards
And all the things you've done.
But yet I have another request,
Before the battles won.

Take care of my family, all of them
I loved them oh so much.
It was hard for me to see them cry
And feel their tender touch.

The span of life is not measured by age.
Both young and old must go.
When his voice summons you to leave this earthly shore
To take hold and return no more.

Prayer is the key to the kingdom
Faith unlocks the door.
Salvation is the requirement
for entrance of the soul.

I'm waiting on the other side
Where tears no more are shed
Where pain has ceased and joy abounds
And the Book of Life is read.
Where there is only love and peace
Where death no more will be.
I'll see you on the "morrow"
We'll rejoice eternally.

—By L. Ernestine Jackson